

STANDARD OIL COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA

Presents

"I AM AN AMERICAN"

A Musical Hall of Fame

(36th Annual STANDARD SCHOOL BROADCAST course)

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PROGRAM # 3

"THOMAS JEFFERSON"

DECEMBER 12, 1963

MUSIC (T):	SIGNATURE THEME (HAUG-DRAGON)	T 1743-1:01
	(ORCHESTRA)	R-47 B-
	MAIN THEME UP FULL FOR :27, THEN TO BACKGROUND & CONCLUDE	
	UNDER FOLLOWING SCRIPT.	

ANNOUNCER: "I Am an American" -- A Musical Hall of Fame -- presented as a public service by the Standard Oil Company of California. Each week at this time we recall the life of an outstanding individual who has been honored by The Hall of Fame for Great Americans at New York University. Through music and the stories of their lives, we reflect the ideals, intelligence, courage and achievements they contributed to our Nation's traditions -- a heritage that makes each of us proud to say "I Am an American."



MUSIC (1):	SONATA VIRGINIAN.:AT THE BIG HOUSE(POWELL)(3438)	4:34
	VIOLIN (GETZOFF) & PIANO (ZEAROTT)	R- B-

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GROVER: That music from John Powell's Sonata Virginianesque-- 1  
sets the scene for our story of a famous Virginian-- 2  
Thomas Jefferson--whose love for music he called the 3  
"favorite passion" of his soul. Jefferson's interest 4  
in music, and in playing the violin, dated back to his 5  
boyhood, when he lived at his father's plantation-- 6  
Shadwell--in what is now Albemarle County, Virginia. 7  
Here Tom was born April 13, 1743. 8

ZIMMER: He was the son of Peter Jefferson, pioneer land-owner, 9  
planter, surveyor, justice of the peace and colonel 10  
of militia. The Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia were 11  
then the western frontier of America. The Jeffersons 12  
were frontiersmen, for their home was in the Blue Ridge 13  
foothills, on forest land cleared by Tom's father. 14

JEFFERSON: The tradition in my father's family was that their 15  
ancestor came to this country from Wales. My father 16  
married Jane Randolph, daughter of Isham Randolph. 17  
They trace their pedigree far back in England and 18  
Scotland. 19

(MUSIC UP AND CONCLUDE) 20

JEFFERSON: My father's education had been quite neglected; but, 21  
being of a strong mind, strong judgment and eager 22  
after information, he read much and improved himself. 23  
He placed me at the English school at five years of 24  
age, and at the Latin school at nine. He died August 25  
17, 1757, leaving my mother with six daughters and two 26



JEFFERSON: sons, myself the elder, 14 years old. On the death of 1  
CONT'D. my father, I went to the Reverend Mr. Maury, a correct 2  
classical scholar, with whom I continued two years. 3

GROVER: By the time young Tom went to Mr. Maury's school, he 4  
had learned to play the violin. It was his favorite 5  
indoor amusement. 6

MUSIC (2): NATCHEZ-ON-THE-HILL (POWELL) (3085) 2:20  
ORCHESTRA R-88 - B-

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JEFFERSON: In the spring of 1760, when I was 17, I went to 7  
William and Mary College, where I continued two years. 8  
It was my great good fortune, and what probably fixed 9  
the destinies of my life, that Dr. William Small of 10  
Scotland was then Professor of Mathematics. He made 11  
me his daily companion when not engaged in the school; 12  
and from his conversation I got my first views of 13  
science. 14

ZIMMER: When young Tom Jefferson rode his horse into Williams- 15  
burg, capital of the colony of Virginia and first city 16  
he had ever seen, he was a tall, loose-jointed, blue- 17  
eyed, snub-nosed, red-headed, freckle-faced, young 18  
frontiersman. He was not handsome, but his soft- 19  
spoken, shy manner, his friendly, light-hearted, 20  
intelligent interest in people, made him popular. His 21  
love for music and dancing made him welcome in the 22  
social life of Williamsburg. 23

GROVER: Through Dr. Small, Tom joined a small group of cultured, 24  
educated men who met regularly at the dinner table of 25  
Governor Fauquier. They discussed music, literature, 26  
science and philosophy, and, as amateur musicians, 27



GROVER: they played private concerts at the Governor's Palace. 1  
Cont'd. What music they played we do not know; but certainly 2  
they included some minuets -- perhaps this one, said 3  
to have been written by another American colonist, 4  
Benjamin Franklin. 5

MUSIC (3): BENJAMIN FRANKLIN SUITE: MINUET (ARR. VINCENT)

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GROVER: Tom had no taste for the drinking, gambling, fox- 6  
hunting gentry of the capital. He referred to 7  
Williamsburg as "Devilsburg" because of these elements 8  
and he avoided them. He liked the common people. He 9  
would ride into the back-country frequently, to visit 10  
the trappers and farmers, who undoubtedly enjoyed his 11  
playing of fiddlers' tunes. 12

ZIMMER: When 19-year-old Tom left William and Mary College in 13  
1762, he had to support his mother's large family. He 14  
turned to the study of law, from 1762 to 1767, under 15  
Williamsburg's famous attorney George Wythe. Tom 16  
became a successful lawyer and began to think of the 17  
day he would return to Albemarle County to live. He 18  
thought of the hill across the Rivanna River from the 19  
family home at Shadwell. He liked the hill and named 20  
it Monticello -- "Little Mountain." A month after his 21  
25th birthday, he had the top of Monticello leveled, 22  
as a setting for his future home. 23

GROVER: The following year, 1769, he became a colonial 24  
legislator -- he was elected to the Virginia House of 25  
Burgesses. 26



ZIMMER: In 1770, Tom went to live at Monticello, in his partly 1  
completed new home. And it was probably that autumn, 2  
in Williamsburg, that he met Martha Wayles Skelton, who 3  
had recently lost her husband and her young son. The 4  
young widow was charming, gentle and friendly, and she 5  
found Tom sympathetic. 6

GROVER: They discovered that they had a mutual interest in music, 7  
for she played the harpsichord and piano. Soon Tom was 8  
visiting her home, "The Forest," where probably they 9  
began to play the duets that they were to enjoy during 10  
their life together. Her home -- "The Forest"---and 11  
their romance might be suggested in the music of In the 12  
Woods, from Powell's Sonata Virginianesque. 13

MUSIC (4):SONATA VIRGINIANESQUE: IN THE WOODS (POWELL)

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GROVER: In 1771, Jefferson was re-elected to the House of 14  
Burgesses. 15

ZIMMER: And on New Year's Day, 1772, Tom and Martha were married. 16  
After a two-week honeymoon at "The Forest," they set out 17  
from Charles City in a carriage, but it broke down and 18  
they had to make the last eight miles of the wintry 100- 19  
mile trip over a mountain road on horseback, and the 20  
very last stage of the journey over a footpath two-feet 21  
deep in snow. They arrived at Monticello late at night, 22  
and the house was empty -- there were no servants, no 23  
food, no fire. But they lived happily there for two 24  
uninterrupted months. And here, in September, 1772, 25  
their first child -- a daughter -- was born. 26

GROVER: The happy beginning of their married life is reflected 27



GROVER: in this Monticello Minuet, composed by Stan Jones. 1  
CONT'D.

MUSIC (5): MONTICELLO MINUET (JONES)

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GROVER: Several years before Jefferson's marriage, his concern 2  
for the rights of the American colonists had begun. 3  
On a memorable day, his friend Patrick Henry had stood 4  
before delegates of the House of Burgesses in Williams-5  
burg and made the fiery speech against the Stamp Act 6  
that brought forth cries of "treason!" 7

JEFFERSON: I was yet a student of law in Williamsburg. At the 8  
door of the lobby of the House of Burgesses, I heard 9  
the splendid display of Mr. Henry's talents as a 10  
popular orator. They were great indeed: such as I 11  
never heard from any other man. 12

GROVER: In his admiration for Patrick Henry's oratory, 13  
Jefferson reveals his regret that he himself was not a 14  
good speaker. But Jefferson became a great writer. 15  
While Patrick Henry became famous as "The Voice of the 16  
Revolution," and George Washington as "The Sword of 17  
the Revolution," history would remember Thomas 18  
Jefferson as "The Pen of the Revolution." 19

JEFFERSON: In the spring of 1773, we were all sensible that the 20  
most urgent of all measures was that of coming to an 21  
understanding with all the other colonies, and to 22  
produce a unity of action. A committee of correspon- 23  
dence in each colony would be the best instrument of 24  
intercommunication. 25



GROVER: Jefferson began to put his talent for writing at the 1  
service of the American colonists, on one of these 2  
committees of correspondence. Jefferson, Henry, 3  
Washington and other Virginia Burgesses held secret 4  
night meetings in the Apollo Room of the Raleigh 5  
Tavern in Williamsburg. There they made decisions of 6  
great historical importance. There the discords of 7  
impending war mingled with echoes of happier days at 8  
Raleigh Tavern, as in the music of Joseph Alexander's 9  
Williamsburg Suite. 10

MUSIC (6): WILLIAMSBURG SUITE: RALEIGH TAVERN (ALEXANDER)

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JEFFERSON: ((We retired to the Apollo, agreed that an attack on 11  
any one colony should be considered as an attack on 12  
the whole. This was in May, 1774. We further recom- 13  
mended to the several counties to appoint delegates 14  
to a general Congress. Philadelphia was appointed 15  
for the place, and the 5th of September for the time 16  
of meeting. I prepared a draft of instructions to the 17  
delegates. Though they thought it too bold for the 18  
present state of things, they printed it in pamphlet 19  
form, under the title of "A Summary View of the Rights 20  
of British America." 21

GROVER: This pamphlet, written for the first Continental 22  
Congress, became better known in Europe and America 23  
than almost any other writing of Jefferson's publi- 24  
shed during the Revolution)) ((Jefferson constantly 25  
supported the rights of the colonists against England. 26  
In 1775, he wrote: 27



JEFFERSON: I am one of those who, rather than submit to the 1  
rights of legislating for us, assumed by the British 2  
Parliament, would lend my hand to sink the whole Island 3  
in the ocean. 4

GROVER: All hope of reconciliation with England had 5  
vanished.)) 6

JEFFERSON: In June, 1776, a committee was appointed to prepare a 7  
Declaration of Independence. The committee were 8  
John Adams, Dr. Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman, 9  
Robert R. Livingston and myself. The committee for 10  
drawing the Declaration of Independence desired me to 11  
do it. It was accordingly done. 12

GROVER: "It was accordingly done" -- in these simple words 13  
Jefferson referred to his writing of one of history's 14  
greatest documents. 15

MUSIC (7): MARCH OF DESTINY (DRAGON)

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JEFFERSON: (OVER MUSIC) When in the course of human events, it 16  
becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the 17  
political bands which have connected them with 18  
another, and to assume, among the powers of the earth, 19  
the separate and equal station to which the laws of 20  
nature and of nature's god entitle them, a decent 21  
respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they 22  
should declare the causes which impel them to the 23  
separation. We hold these truths to be self-evident, 24  
that all men are created equal, that they are endowed 25  
by their creator with certain unalienable rights, 26  
that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of 27



JEFFERSON: happiness. (MUSIC UP MOMENTARILY & THEN AGAIN TO B/G)

CONT'D.

GROVER: "The Pen of the Revolution" -- Thomas Jefferson -- 1  
 then 33 years old, had written his most celebrated 2  
 document -- the Declaration of American Independence! 3  
 (MUSIC UP MOMENTARILY & THEN AGAIN TO B/G)

Three years later, June 1, 1779, Jefferson became 4  
 Governor of Virginia, during the Revolutionary War, 5  
 and there too "The Pen" wrote American history -- 6  
 he abolished feudal laws of inheritance, established 7  
 religious freedom, introduced free schools and 8  
 libraries. He was re-elected Governor in 1780, and 9  
 retired at the end of his term, while Virginia was 10  
 being invaded by the British. On June 4, 1781, he 11  
 narrowly escaped capture by the British at Monticello. 12  
 It was after this that Jefferson's political career 13  
 took a sudden turn downward to its lowest point. An 14  
 investigation was ordered into his conduct as wartime 15  
 Governor of Virginia. He was vindicated, but he was 16  
 deeply wounded that his conduct should have been 17  
 questioned. 18

ZIMMER: And, at this time, a series of personal sorrows 19  
 reached a tragic climax in his life. During the ten 20  
 years of their married life, Tom and Martha had 21  
 shared the grief of seeing three of their six 22  
 children die in infancy or early childhood. And then 23  
 Martha became seriously ill. For four months 24  
 Jefferson cut himself off completely from the world, 25  
 while he sat at his wife's bedside. And then, in his 26  
 diary, under the date of September 6, 1782, he wrote: 27



JEFFERSON: My dear wife died this day at 11:45 a.m. (MUSIC UP 1  
& TO B/G). 2

ZIMMER: In that one line lay the greatest tragedy of Thomas 3  
Jefferson's life. He remained a widower for the rest 4  
of his long life. Martha left Tom with three young 5  
daughters -- Martha, aged 10; Mary, aged 4; and Lucy 6  
Elizabeth, only four months old, who also was fated 7  
to die while still a child. 8

GROVER: Jefferson turned back to his political career as an 9  
escape from his grief. In June, 1783, he was elected 10  
a delegate to Congress. In 1784, he influenced 11  
Virginia to give its vast territory beyond the Ohio 12  
River to the Federal Government; he presented to 13  
Congress the Ordinance of 1784, providing for the 14  
ceding of such lands for the purpose of creating new 15  
states; he wrote a document that led to replacing 16  
English pounds, shillings and pence with American 17  
dollars, dimes and cents; and he was appointed 18  
Minister to France, succeeding Benjamin Franklin. On 19  
July 5, 1784, he sailed from Boston, taking with him 20  
his oldest daughter, Martha, and his precious violin. 21  
On his arrival in France, the Count Vergennes asked 22  
him: "You replace Dr. Franklin?" With a smile, 23  
Jefferson replied: 24

JEFFERSON: I succeed him; no one can replace Dr. Franklin. 25

GROVER: He engaged in diplomatic missions in Paris and 26  
London; and in 1789 he witnessed the fall of the 27  
Bastille in Paris and the end of the French monarchy. 28

MUSIC (8): LA MARSEILLAISE (DE LISLE)



GROVER: A few weeks after the fall of the Bastille, Jefferson 1  
left Paris: President George Washington had appointed 2  
him the first Secretary of State of the United States. 3  
In Washington's cabinet, Jefferson came face to face 4  
with Alexander Hamilton, first Secretary of the 5  
Treasury, who was to be his greatest political foe. 6  
As a result of his conflicts with Hamilton, Jefferson 7  
resigned as Secretary of State in December, 1793. 8

ZIMMER: For three years thereafter he lived at Monticello, 9  
taking care of his family, his house and his land. 10  
((Jefferson always preferred his family and friends, 11  
his home and his books, to politics, for he felt 12  
naturally inclined to what he called "the tranquil 13  
pursuits of science.")) 14

GROVER: But the American people demanded his services, as a 15  
statesman and he gave them as a public duty. In 1796, 16  
Jefferson was elected/ Vice President in John Adams' 17  
administration. 18  
Four years later, in 1800, through the influence of 18  
Alexander Hamilton, who was his political opponent 19  
but respected his integrity, Thomas Jefferson became 20  
our third President. 21

MUSIC (9): JEFFERSON AND LIBERTY

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GROVER: Jefferson was the first President inaugurated in the 22  
new capital city of Washington, D.C. 23

ZIMMER: Carrying out his democratic principles, he walked to 24  
his inauguration from his boarding house, one block 25  
away, and walked back, accompanied by a group of 26



ZIMMER: soldiers and civilians. At the President's House, he 1  
introduced the custom of shaking hands with guests 2  
instead of requiring them to bow to him. 3

GROVER: He held the first Presidential review of military 4  
forces from the President's House, when he reviewed 5  
the Marines, led by the Marine band. Perhaps one of 6  
the selections they played was the then new Jefferson's 7  
March. 8

MUSIC (10): JEFFERSON'S MARCH

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GROVER: Jefferson's two terms as President were mostly un- 9  
eventful though he prosecuted a successful war against 10  
the Barbary pirates in the Mediterranean. 11

ZIMMER: In 1802, his home at Monticello was finally completed. 12  
One of Virginia's most beautiful homes, it was built 13  
from Jefferson's own plans. 14

GROVER: In 1803, Jefferson performed what The Hall of Fame 15  
for Great Americans at New York University considers 16  
his greatest single achievement: He purchased the 17  
vast Louisiana Territory from France for approximately 18  
\$15,000,000, thereby practically doubling the area of 19  
the United States. We commemorate this achievement 20  
with a selection from Ferde Grofe's Mississippi suite 21  
-- Old Creole Days. 22

MUSIC (11): MISSISSIPPI: OLD CREOLE DAYS (GROFE)

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GROVER: The American flag was no sooner raised west of the 1  
Mississippi than Jefferson sent Lewis and Clark and 2  
Captain Zebulon Pike to explore the vast new American 3  
territory. Jefferson refused to consider a third term 4  
as President, and retired to Monticello in 1809. But 5  
he continued to merit his title of "The Pen!" for his 6  
writings exerted great political influence through 7  
sixteen years more of what has become known as the 8  
"Jeffersonian era." ((Both James Madison and James 9  
Monroe were like younger brothers or sons to him, and 10  
he inspired their political beliefs.)) 11

ZIMMER: When Jefferson retired to Monticello he was a financially 12  
ruined man, for he had paid many of his official ex- 13  
penses out of his own pocket, and his plantation had 14  
been badly managed during his absence. He was never 15  
able to get out of debt. He paid part of it by selling 16  
the Government 13,000 volumes of his private library, 17  
to replace books destroyed by the British when they 18  
burned Washington in 1814. They became the foundation 19  
of today's great Library of Congress. 20

GROVER: Jefferson devoted his declining years to farming, 21  
philosophy, science, art, music, literature, religion 22  
and, above all, education. He conceived the idea of the 23  
University of Virginia, drew up the architectural plans 24  
and established it in 1819, seven years before he died 25  
on the 4th of July, 1826, at the age of 83, exactly 50 26  
years after the Declaration of Independence. In writing 27  
his own epitaph, Jefferson mentioned only what he him- 28  
self considered his greatest achievements: 29



JEFFERSON: Author of the Declaration of American Independence, 1  
of the statute of Virginia for religious freedom, 2  
and father of the University of Virginia. 3

MUSIC (12): VIRGINIA, HAIL, ALL HAIL (MORROW)

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GROVER: And so, with the playing of the University of Virginia<sup>4</sup>  
hymn Virginia, Hail, All Hail, by Morrow, we conclude 5  
our story of Thomas Jefferson, one of the five 6  
Presidents whom a group of 75 historians recently 7  
honored as truly "great." This distinction was 8  
bestowed on Jefferson earlier, when, at the dedi- 9  
cation ceremonies on Memorial Day, 1901, he was named 10  
one of the first to be honored by election to The 11  
Hall of Fame for Great Americans at New York Universi-12  
ty. The words of Thomas Jefferson were read on this 13  
program by \_\_\_\_\_, and the program 14  
was written and produced by Adrian Michaelis, Program 15  
Manager. Soloists included violinist James Getzoff, 16  
pianist Michael Zearott and baritone George Alexander.17  
Your narrators were Norma Zimmer and I -- John Grover 18  
-- who cordially invite you to tune in to our next 19  
program, two weeks from today, when we shall tell you 20  
the story of John Paul Jones, whose life established 21  
United States naval traditions that are part of the 22  
heritage behind the words "I am an America." 23



MUSIC (T): SIGNATURE THEME (HAUG-DRAGON) T 1740 - :57  
(ORCHESTRA) R- B-  
PRE-THEME IN B/G UNDER FOREGOING SCRIPT: THEME IN CLEAR,  
UP FULL AND CONCLUDE BEFORE READING OF FOLLOWING SIGNOFF:

ANNOUNCER: "I Am an American" -- A Musical Hall of Fame - the 36th  
Annual Series of the Standard School Broadcast - is  
presented transcribed by the Standard Oil Company of  
California.